GREATER LAWNDALE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NEWS NOTES

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BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT TO ADDRESS GLCC MEETING

R. SARGENT SHRIVER TO SPEAK: CLEAN-UP WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED

R. Sargent Shriver, President of the Board of Education and prominent Chicagoan will be guest at the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission's general meeting at 8:00 PM, September 23, 1958 at Sears YMCA. Mr. Shriver will discuss education in general and Lawndale Schools in particular. Mr. Shriver brings with him wide experience and much personal knowledge. A graduate of Yale Law School, he received his L.L.B. in 1948. In addition to being President of the Board of Education, Mr. Shriver serves on the Illinois School Problems Commission and on the board of four Chicago colleges and universities. His work as a leader in the many interracial, health, religious and welfare agencies is well known.

R. Sargent Shriver

Another special feature of the meeting will be the announcement of the winners in the 1958 Cleaner, Greener Lawndale Campagin. For the third consecutive year, GLCC has sponsored and promoted home improvement and neighborhood clean-up campaigns. This year, the campaign has differed from previous ones in that a price cut on seed and paint was offered to make it easier for Lawndalers to take part in the contest and contribute to neighborhood improvement.

Winners will be awarded good citizenship certificates. The Competition was open to home owners and tenants and those entering vacant lots and block clubs.

Mayor Richard J. Daley, Charles H. Kellstadt, new president of Sears, Roebuck & Co., and other officials have been invited.

NEW ANTI-SLUM LAW

Chicago has a new law aimed at the "ghost" owners of slum property. The ordinance requires a resident of the city to be responsible for maintaining in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Code, each building with three or more dwelling units or ten or more sleeping rooms. The objective is to rout out owners who hide behind false names, trusts and other fronts. Owners must be available to receive summonses and go to court if violations are discovered. Additional information on the ordinance may be obtained from George L. Ramsey, Commissioner of Buildings, 320 N. Clark Street, or call RA 6-8000.

CAN HESS SCHOOL SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF STUDENT FAILURES?

A higher percentage of Chicago public elementary school pupils will be repeating school work this fall than last, according to a report issued recently by the Chicago School Board.

Some have interpreted these figures optimistically, saying the schools are raising academic standards and that this is a good thing.

Closer examination reveals, however, that 20 of the 25 schools handing out the largest number of failures are schools in high transiency areas where pupils tend to move from one school to another and where faculty changes are frequent. Thus the report does not show school standards

are rising but points up the failure of the school system to meet the problems of educating youngsters whose families are on the move.

Against the background of this report, the experiment at Hess School, 3500 W. Douglas Blvd., takes on added significance for its new teaching method is designed to meet this problem. On its success or failure rests the future not only of its own student body but of many other youngsters whose schools may, if Hess is successful, adopt the Hess plan.

At Hess, pupils are grouped according to ability, rather than according to chronological age.

Activities are centered around learning cores

There are four groups or "tracks" as they are called. Students in the first track have an accelerated and enriched program of literature and social studies that will prove valuable to them in high school. As they need not mark time while slower students catch up, they don't become bored with school. School officials say these youngsters are less likely to become high school dropouts; they and society both will benefit.

The second track consists of pupils with average academic ability. Here, too, students compete with their peers. They need not wait for slow learners, nor are all the awards of academic achievement taken from them by the rapid learners.

The third group, those with less than average achievement, have a curriculum which stresses drill in fundamentals like arithmetic, without which students cannot make further progress. Students may move from one track to another if they make suitable progress.

The fourth track includes the mentally handicapped. Art, music, gym, swimming and social development round out the program. Individual counseling helps solve personal and social problems.

Thus the school's curriculum is geared to the individual needs and aptitudes of the individual child, designed to help each one to make the most of what he has. School, under these conditions, is no longer boring for the bright nor too frustrating for the slower learner. School becomes a place where a youngster wants to go, where education can be a stimulating and exciting experience.

(Next Month: Results at Hess one year after)

GLCC HOUSING AND ZONING SCORE BOARD
AUGUST 1, 1958 to AUGUST 30, 1958

	TO DATE	LAST 30 DAYS
Complaints Received	246	15
Inspections by GLCC	200	16
Inspections by Department of Buildings	71	9
Complaints closed GLCC	71	8
Complaints closed Department of Buildings	53	6
Complaints in Court	3	
Complaints Currently under investigation by GLCC	27	

"SO YOU'RE BUYING A HOME?"

(This is the second of a series of articles appearing in NEWS-NOTES)

Few people realize how much can be learned from inspection of real estate and how many pitfalls can be avoided by visiting the property they wish to buy.

Any person who contemplates buying property should remember that he may spend from five to 15 years of his life there and he should treat the purchase with a just amount of care. The buyer should learn the identity of all occupants of the property and the interest each occupant claims. "Meet the seller" is an excellent rule to follow. The seller in a small building almost always lives on the premises. Ask how long he has been there. Find out why he is moving. Discuss with him the amount of money he is asking. You may save thousands of dollars in this way.

If the broker tells you that the seller has moved away already, or the seller does not live on the property, then it is very likely that the seller is really the broker and has already purchased the property at his own price with the sole purpose of reselling it for a very high profit. A simple rule would be "don't buy unless the seller

lives on the premises."

If the broker tells you that he is the owner and that he is selling for himself, ask how much he paid for the building. Then ask him to give you a statement in writing setting forth his payments and the terms of his sale. If, for example, the broker purchased a two flat for $10,500 subject to a $9,000 mortgage about a week before his offer of the property to you, then it would seem he would have to work very hard to justify asking you $20,000 or even $18,000 for the same building. These are just a few of the things that can be learned by getting up, going out and examining the property. Careful examination is the first step in self protection.

(Next Month: Paths of Protection)

NEW SCHOOLS ADDED TO LAWNDALE

A new Chalmers school, replacing one of the oldest school structures in Chicago is scheduled for completion in September, 1959, according to the Board of Education. The school will accommodate 900 to 1000 students. Present plans call

School and local officials "dig in" at the recent ground breaking ceremonies for the new Chalmers School, 1220 S. Fairfield Avenue.

Participating in the ceremony are: Dr. Edwin A. Lederer, Dr. Sophie Reiffel, Dr. George R. Balling, Dr. Thaddeus J. Lubera, Miss Regina Devine, school officials; Mrs. Willie Mae Brown, President, Chalmers PTA, C.J. Peck, Jr., President, GLCC, Mrs. Juliette Buford and Julio Vivas, Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission staff, Miss Ethel Vrana, Secretary, GLCC, W.G. Dooley; President Sears Bank & Trust Company, Rev. W. J. Schuerman, Arnold Memorial Church and Rev. C. S. Hampton, Lawndale Baptist Church. The new School, designed by Pace Associates, will cost 1 million dollars.

for 21 classrooms, two kindergartens, two ungraded classrooms, one library, one auditorium-gymnasium and one administrative suite. The present school has 15 classrooms. Total cost is $1,008,413. In addition to Chalmers, final plans were approved last week by the Board of Education for two additional new elementary schools for the West Side. Replacing two schools, the Crerar-King building at South Campbell Ave. and Lexington will house between 1,008 and 1,260 pupils in 32 classrooms. The School Board has also voted condemnation proceedings to acquire property at 15th and Tripp Ave. for a kindergarten-primary building to relieve Bryant School, 1355 S. Kedvale Ave. where 28 to 39 classrooms are on double shift. Ten new classrooms will also be added to Manley School, 2935 Polk St.

Lawndale chairmen and co-chairmen met recently at the Sears YMCA, 3210 West Arthington Street to lay plans for the Community Fund-Red Cross Joint Appeal and to divide territory and assign responsibilities. Mrs. Hattie Mack, 3348 W. Douglas Blvd., is president. Local women assisting are (l. to r.) seated Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mrs. Hattie Mack, Mrs. J. Mark Britton, Jr. Standing (l. to r.) are Mrs. Ruth Pertiller, Mrs. Nathan Wilson, Mrs. Irene Worrell, and Mrs. Eleanor Thomas. Not shown in picture are: Mrs. Claude Audley, Mrs. Stewart Brown, Mrs. Harold Trammel, Mrs. Dorothy L. Branch, and Mrs. Leona Dial. The Fund Drive is set for the month of October.

COMMUNITY FUND-RED CROSS JOINT APPEAL DRIVE SET FOR OCTOBER 1

The Community Fund-Red Cross Joint Appeal Fund Raising Campaign in Lawndale is set for October 1, announced Mrs. Eunice Shriver, vice-chairman of Division No. 7. The need of the Community Fund-Red Cross Joint Appeal has been set at $14,317,849 of which the Community Fund receives 76 and the Chicago Red Cross 24 percent. The Community Fund operates its fund raising campaign only in the city of Chicago and money raised goes to help pay the expenses of 161 agencies which receive funds from the Community Fund and The American Red Cross. Marcy Center, 1539 South Springfield Avenue, American Boys Commonwealth, 3415 West 13th Place, Boys Brotherhood Republic, 1530 South Hamlin Avenue, are just a few of the agencies which are supported by these grants. Mrs. Hattie Mack, 3348 West Douglas Boulevard, is president of the Lawndale group.

These Lawndalers recently volunteered their help in the community's mobile X-ray unit program which successfully completed 7,285 chest X-rays in 17 days. The reception was given by the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission which sponsored the volunteer program. Attending the party were: front row (l. to r.) Mrs. Willie Duke, Mrs. Inez Jones, Mrs. Genoria Coleman, Miss Pauline Watts, her sister Diane and Miss Roy Henderson. Second row (l. to r.) William Robinson, area health educator, Tuberculosis Institute; Miss Vernita Hunt, and Miss Joyce Porter. Also in the second row are Miss Rita Wilson, Miss Joyce Redney, Miss Lois Scott, and her sister Beverly. At the extreme right is Mr. Raymond J. Carlyle, Public Relations Director of the Conservation Commission.

THE PRESIDENT SAYS:—

On August 14, 1958, I wrote a letter to Commissioner Holland, of the Community Conservation Board of Chicago, regarding a further step in bringing conservation to the Greater Lawndale area. Specifically, I asked him for a green light for an application to the federal government for planning funds and capital grant reservation for the Lawndale area.

His reply of August 27, 1958 reads as follows:

"In light of the recent congressional action on voting funds for Urban Renewal, the Community Conservation Board is now reviewing the Urban Renewal Program of Chicago.

"When this review is completed, which I am sure will not take too long, I shall be in a better position to state when we can initiate an application for a planning grant."

Commissioner Holland's reference to "recent congressional action" covered the defeat in the House of Representatives on August 18, 1958 of the omnibus $1 billion housing bill.

This defeat need not further dealy action by the Conservation Board in promoting the program of the Lawndale area. Mayor Daley was quoted in the Chicago Sun-Times of August 19, 1958 as saying that planning for the future rebuilding of Chicago will be carried on unabated by city agencies with full confidence that the next session of Congress will provide the urban renewal funds this session refused. We concur. There is no reason to delay application for funds.

Your Commission will continue to press for city and federal action in serving the Lawndale area. We must also develop workable plans which can be made effective on a "do it yourself" basis. Toward this end I have appointed a special committee of Board members to come up with recommendations for specific action in Lawndale that can be brought about by ourselves, working with all members of the community. When these plans have been discussed and approved by our Board, they will be announced through the News Notes in a future issue.

We have confidence in the future of Lawndale and are convinced that much can be done by ourselves in the same way that our pioneer fathers conquered their obstacles by themselves. Local effort and local cooperation have solved problems in this country for 182 years. Lawndalers working together can and must carry on this tradition.

C. J. Peck, Jr.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

A GANG SHOW by the Boy Scouts of America will be held September 16 thru 20 at the J. Sterling Morton Auditorium, 2400 S. Austin Blvd., Cicero, Ill. The show, directed, written and produced by England's Ralph Reader, will have an all scout cast of 150, 40 to 50 scenes and 18 to 20 acts. Tickets are available at $1.00 thru $4.00. Evening performances begin at 8:00 PM. John O'Quinn, leader of Cubs #3365 announced that rebates from the show will go to Scout treasuries. Call CR 7-1568 for further information.

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Congratulations to the 4200 Grenshaw Improvement Club which gave its first street party, August 16. Thanks to the cooperation of many good neighbors, 175 children had a good time. Special credit goes to Mrs. Rose Shaw, Mrs. Mary Reevers, Ben French, George Bullock and Fred Tucker and Mr. Sam Houseworth. Mrs. Juanita Gant, is chairman of the club.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 23 GLCC Board of Directors, 12:15 P.M. Sears YMCA
Sept. 23 GLCC General Meeting 8:00 P.M., Sears YMCA (See first page).
Oct. 7-8 Bus tour of Lawndale. Part of the "Know Your Chicago" program sponsored by the Women's College Board and University of Chicago. Panel discussion at Sears YMCA, 12:30 P.M. "What Changes in Ethnic Groups Have Meant to the Lawndale Community."
Oct. 27 Bus Tour of Lawndale by the Women's Council for City Renewal.

Mrs. Alice Kimbrough, president of the 1500 Trumbull Improvement Club announced plans for a mass meeting at the New Macedonia Baptist Church, 1519 S. Homan Ave. for November. An executive meeting will be held at 8:00 PM in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Miller, September 18.

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The Holy Mount Baptist Church celebrated its Sixth Anniversary August 10 thru 17. Rev. C. A. Staples credits visiting pastors and choirs and excellent attendance with its success.

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The Community Pride Block Club, 1300 S. Lawndale has had a busy summer, reports Mrs. G. Nevils, 1322 S. Lawndale Ave. Alderman Ben F. Lewis spoke at the club's Fourth Annual Tea and Style Show, July 13. On July 26, the Junior Club picnicked in Forest Park. Special thanks to Mesdames Cook, Childres, Colman and Parker.

GREATER LAWNDALE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

President ..... Claude J. Peck, Jr.

Vice Presidents Claude Audley, Mrs. Sidney Berman, Dorothy L. Branch, Paul P. Howard, Hazzard Parks, Joseph Rosen, Vic. H. Scher, Ferrin E. Wilson, Charles D. Wilson, J. William Young

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Editor ..... Raymond Carlyle